LESSON 14 - Prayer of Joshua: When the Sun and Moon Stood Still

WORSHIP (15 MINUTES)

Play worship music to create an atmosphere of worship and help everyone prepare their hearts. If the venue is public, invite everyone to share the highs and lows of their week to build connection and fellowship.

WELCOME (10 MINUTES)

Welcome guests and first-time visitors warmly. Start with a simple icebreaker question to help everyone get acquainted, create a comfortable atmosphere, and encourage guests to feel included.

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

If you could make one thing "stand still", what would it be and why?

WORD (30-45 MINUTES)

Main Text: Read Joshua 10:12-14 (NLT), Joshua 10:8 (NLT)

Intro:
The Book of Joshua is about victory over enemies and obstacles. It describes Joshua's confidence in God in the face of adversaries. Together with the new generation of Israelites, Joshua led the people of Israel to possess the Promised Land. From the main text, Joshua entered the battle with full confidence, knowing that God had promised victory for the people of Israel. God intervened in extraordinary ways: He threw the Amorite armies into confusion, sent large hailstones from heaven, and ultimately made the sun and sun/moon stand still after Joshua prayed a remarkable prayer.

Q: What are the challenges you are facing right now for which you are praying?

Joshua's remarkable prayer showed his tremendous confidence in God:

1. Joshua's confidence in God's faithfulness to His promises
Joshua 1:1-8 (NLT)
Joshua's confidence was rooted in God's faithfulness from the very beginning of his leadership, right after Moses had died. He believed in God's covenant promises to Israel. In Joshua 1:1–8, God promised Joshua prosperity and good success as he led Israel to the Promised Land. This conversation with God prepared Joshua to face the impossible. We need to study and meditate on the Word of God so that we can know His promises.

Q: What is something that you have been praying to God about this last few days?
Q: What promise of God are you holding onto during challenging times?

2. Joshua's confidence in God's sovereign authority and power over creation

Joshua's deep faith in God's authority over all creation is exemplified through his prayer asking for the sun and moon to stand still. This miraculous event led to the Israelites' victory. It is a one-of-a-kind phenomenon that only God can make happen. The emphasis of the passage is not on Joshua's authority, but on God's willingness to act on behalf of His people. Joshua believed that nothing was beyond God's power.

Q: How can we follow Joshua's example of trusting God's power and authority, especially when we face situations that seem impossible in our own lives?

3. Joshua trusted God by living out God's purpose for his life

Joshua's prayers were aligned with the purpose God had given him. His example teaches us to trust God's plan for our lives and to ask Him boldly in prayer to align our lives with His will. The miracles God performed during Joshua's time were not just to display His power, but to assist Joshua in completing the assignment God had given him. God's response to our prayers is not only about our own interests, but also for the advancement of His kingdom and the fulfillment of the Church's mission to make disciples.

Q: In your current season of life, where do you feel you need God's alignment most (personal, relationships, career, ministry, future)?

Conclusion:
In the story Joshua, he obeyed and trusted God and he experienced God's faithfulness through the miracles and wonders he witnessed. Our God is the same God that Joshua believed in. If we obey and follow God to the mission He has given us, God will provide what we needed to accomplish His purpose miraculously just like what happened to Joshua.

The Great Commission is the mission that God has given to us to spread His word to other people who have not yet know Christ. Church was not meant to be within the four walls of our building but we are to reach out the people outside. Our mission field may be our school, workplace, neighborhood, community, or even within our family.

Stay faithful in our mission. God is able and He works in ways our human mind can't fathom. Let us sow seed of God's love and the Gospel.

Q: Are you ready to obey God's calling and purpose in your life?
Q: Where is your mission field? How will you take the first step in sharing the gospel with someone?

WORK (15 MINUTES)

Application:
1. Find a partner. Ask what you can pray for him/her then pray for each other.
2. Pray and prepare a Hit List (max. of 5-10 names of family, relatives, friends, schoolmates, workmates, neighbors, etc.) of possible people you desire to invite in the next life group gathering.

What is your take-away from this lesson? Closing Prayer